

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1860.

Consolidated Aug. 2, 1881.

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longer will be made at reduced rates.

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scribe private interests will be charged

for as advertisements.

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will be charged for.

SOCIAL CLUB MANAGER FINED.

W. H. Brown, of Orangeburg, Admits

Violating Liquor Law.

Orangeburg, Sept. 7.—In the criminal

court this morning W. H. Brown

pleaded guilty to the charge of keep-

ing and storing whiskey and was sen-

tenced to pay a fine of \$100 or be

imprisoned for three months. This is

one of the cases growing out of the

raid on the Edisto Social Club, of

which Brown was manager. There

are still two more cases pending—one

for keeping and storing and the other

for selling liquor. Besides there

is a fine of \$75 or 30 days' imprison-

ment hanging over Brown from the

mayor's court, he having appealed

the case. Brown made a statement to

the court as to how he had managed

the club, and was told by the judge

that his manner of handling liquor

for the members of the club was a

violation of the law. Judge Gary said

he was a member of a club in the

city of Columbia, but that the liquors

were bought by the members in their

own names, and if desired they car-

ried small quantities of it to the club

rooms and placed it in the lockers.

This, he thought was not a violation

of the law, but to order in the name

of the club of its manager and then

dispute among the members was

beginning and selling and clearly

violating the laws against the

same thing.

The other cases against Brown

will probably be tried tomorrow or

the next day. Much interest is being

shown in this matter.

CORN CORP NOT GOOD.

Average Condition 74.6 Against 79.4

Last Year.

Washington, Sept. 8.—The crop-re-

porting board of the department of

agriculture estimates the condition of

crops on September 1 last as follows:

Corn 74.6, as compared with 79.4 on

the same date last year; spring wheat

83.6, as compared with 77.6 in 1908.

Comparisons for corn show:

State.	Condition, Sept. 1, '09.	Condition, Sept. 1, '08.	10-year Septem-ber average.
Texas.....	55	85	74
Georgia.....	88	84	84
Tennessee.....	73	84	81
Alabama.....	76	84	82
North Carolina.....	79	84	83
Arkansas.....	65	80	78
Mississippi.....	69	87	78
Louisiana.....	87	86	80
South Carolina.....	82	81	78
Virginia.....	75	89	87
United States.....	74.6	79.4	80.6
Comparison for wheat shows:			
United States.....	83.6	77.6	76.9

The average condition of the crop

when harvested was 83.8, against 69.7

when harvested in 1908.

The average condition of tobacco

on September 1 is stated as 80.2

against 84.3.

The condition of tobacco on Sep-

tember in important States was:

Kentucky 80; North Carolina 77;

Virginia 85; Tennessee 80; South

Carolina 85; Connecticut 84; Florida

85.

PRIZE DRILL AT STATE FAIR.

President Mobley to Suggest Plan

to Militia Officers.

Columbia, Sept. 8.—President Jno.

G. Mobley, of the South Carolina Ag-

ricultural and Mechanical Society,

has addressed to the commanding of-

ficers of all the militia companies in

the State a letter requesting their at-

tendance at a meeting to be held in

the city council chamber, in Colum-

bia, Sept. 15, to discuss the advisa-

bility of having a prize drill at the

1909 State fair.

The Pee Dee Trust Company has

been organized at Florence with a

capital stock of \$50,000.

HIGH SCHOOL FUND.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MAKES APPROPRIATIONS.

Other Matters of Interest to School
Teachers and Others Interested in
Educational Affairs in South Caro-

lina.

Columbia, Sept. 7.—The matter of

high school applications was dis-

cussed at length today at the meet-

ing of the State board of education,

held in the office of State Superin-

tendent of Education Swearingen.

The following members of the board

were present at the meeting: W. K.

Tate, Charleston; A. R. Banks, Col-

umbia; A. J. Thackston, Orangeburg;

H. F. Rice, Aiken; Nathan Toms,

Darlington; D. W. Daniell, of Clem-

son, and Prof. A. G. Rembert, of

Wofford. Gov. Ansel is chairman of

the board and State Superintendent

of Education Swearingen is secretary.

The list of high schools was ap-

proved and appropriations made.

Seventy-five of the 131 schools

received aid as rural high schools.

Half the appropriation to each school

will be paid in December and half

in March. It was a source of regret

to every member of the board that

several high school applications could

not be honored because the \$2,000

limit set by the High School Act had

been already reached. Anderson,

Laurens and Orangeburg counties all

applied for more money than could

be appropriated to their high schools.

A bulletin will soon be issued by the

University treating fully of high

school unit text books and courses of

study. The date of the next teachers'

examination was set for October 1.

Each county superintendent of edu-

cation should take notice of the time

and advertise in his local pa-

pers.

The appeal from citizens of the

Hilda school district in Barnwell

county, concerning the removal of

the school building from its present

site, was dismissed, and the action of

the Barnwell County board sustain-

ed.

The State board gave notice that at

the next teachers' examination in

May, 1910, applicants will be re-

quired to stand an examination on el-

ementary agriculture.

The secretary reported that the

\$20,000 appropriated by the last leg-

islature to lengthen the term of weak

rural schools had all been paid out.

The board will consider some plan by

which this appropriation can be in-

creased and disbursed, if the general

assembly will consider the bill next

winter.

The reading circle work for 1908-

09 was concluded September 1, and

the board authorized a new course

for 1909-10. All applicants are re-

quired to make a general average of

75 per cent, with not less than 60 per

cent on any one branch. The books

adopted for the coming year are

civics and health. Chubb's teaching

of English, Smith's evolution of

Dodd.

Col. A. R. Banks, representative of

the 5th district, offered his resigna-

tion. The chairman accepted this,

expressing his regret that the senior

member of the board was discontinu-

ing his connection, and paying Col.

Banks an eloquent tribute for his

able and patriotic service to the

schools of the State. The governor

announced that J. Lyles Glenn would

receive the appointment to fill out

the unexpired term of Col. Banks.

The only schools in Sumter county

to receive High School appropriations

were Gen. Sumter Memorial Academy

and the Rafting Creek High School.

TO TRY OUT COTTON HARVES-

TER.

Demonstration of Cotton Picking

Machine to be Made at Bennetts-

ville.

Bennettsville, Sept. 8.—Mr. Angus

Campbell, representing Mr. Theodore

H. Price, of New York, was in Ben-

netsville today for the purpose of

securing a field of cotton to be used

in the demonstration of the cotton

harvester. Mr. Campbell found what

he wanted, and has purchased one

hundred acres from Ex-Senator John

L. McLaurin. The cotton on this

field will remain unpicked until the

latter part of this month, or the first

of October, when Mr. Price and as-

sociates will come here and the demon-

stration will be made. Mr. Campbell

is the inventor of the machine and

Mr. Price and others are interested

in promoting and backing the propo-

sition. The inventor is a native of

Canada, though he lived for a num-

ber of years in Texas.

Italy, with 32,000,000, has now the

smallest population of any of the

great Powers.

PROBE GEORGETOWN KILLING.

SHOOTING OF MRS. G. C. BIGHAM
LEADS TO ARRESTS.

Coroner Swears Out Warrants for W.
B. Avant, Who Shot Mrs. Bigham,
And for the Latter's Husband, Who
Was With Avant.

Georgetown, Sept. 8.—Coroner C.

J. Fletcher yesterday swore out a

warrant for William B. Avant as

principal, and for Dr. J. C. Bigham

as accessory for the killing of Mrs.

G. C. Bigham, wife of the later, at

Murrell's Inlet, on Saturday night

last. The verdict of the coroner's

jury reads as follows: "That the

deceased came to her death by a

gunshot wound at the hands of W.

B. Avant and J. C. Bigham as acce-

sory thereto, both men laboring un-

der great mental excitement and fear

at the time of the deed."

It is the strong opinion of everyone

in this neighborhood that the shoot-

ing was inexcusable in its gross care-

lessness, and deserves to be investi-

gated to the bottom. It is reported

that one of the probable causes of

the men shooting at the unknown ob-

ject was because Sunnyside house was

said to be haunted, and they thought

it a ghost. The deputy sheriff is ex-

pected to arrive with the two men to-

night.

Coroner Fletcher has acted with

proper consideration in the matter,

and only proceeded with the require-

ments of the law after sad obsequies

were completed, feeling satisfied that

the parties charged could be had

whenever wanted.

Dr. Bigham Arrested.

Florence, Sept. 8.—Dr. G. C. Bigh-

am, of Georgetown county, who was

implicated by the coroner and jury

in the killing of his wife at Murrell

Inlet, was arrested at the home of his

mother, Mrs. M. S. Bigham, at For-

estville, this afternoon by Deputy

Sheriff Harrell. Dr. Bigham was

brought to Florence and placed in

cell upon telegraphic instructions

from the sheriff of Georgetown. Sher-

iff Burch has notified the sheriff of

Georgetown, who will come tomorrow

and take Dr. Bigham back to Geor-

getown. Dr. Bigham when arrested

was completely overcome with grief.

DIVIDED \$16,000,000 IN LIFE.

William H. Singer Had a Premonition

Of Death.

Hartford, Conn., Sept. 6.—The

strange premonition which caused

William H. Singer, of the Carnegie

and Crucible Steel Companies, to dis-

tribute most of his \$16,000,000 for-

fortune among his four children several

months ago came true today, when

he died in his cottage at Watch Hill,